

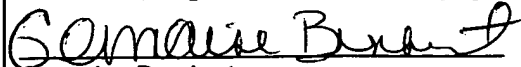
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Germaine Brenkert

Dated: May 17, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kiyobumi Kurita et al.
PCT No. : PCT/JP2004/012169
PCT Date : August 25, 2004
For : HOT AIR CIRCULATION FURNACE

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above national phase application, please amend the same as follows.